

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A vent filter seal for a sterilization container having a vent through which sterilization media is introduced into the container and a sheet filter  
5 inside the container covering the vent comprising:  
a vent recess in the container surrounding the vent;  
a gasket disposed within said vent recess over which the sheet filter is placed; and  
a filter cover having a ridge sized to fit into said vent recess and  
10 surround the vent.
2. The vent filter seal of claim 1 further comprising:  
a ridge on the exterior of the container surrounding the vent.
3. The vent filter seal of claim 2 wherein said ridge is the opposite side of said vent recess.
- 15 4. The vent filter seal of claim 1 further comprising:  
mechanical means locking said filter cover onto the container and urging said ridge into said vent recess with a positive force.
5. The vent filter seal of claim 4 wherein said filter cover and the vent are spaced apart when said filter cover is locked onto the container.
- 20 6. The vent filter seal of claim 5 wherein the vent is a pattern of holes through the container and the filter cover further comprises:  
a pattern of holes through said cover within the area defined by said filter cover ridge.
7. The vent filter seal of claim 6 wherein the holes of the vent and said  
25 holes of said filter cover are offset relative to each other.
8. A vent filter seal for a sterilization container having a wall containing a vent through which sterilization media is introduced into the container and a sheet filter inside the container covering the vent comprising:  
a vent recess formed in the wall around the vent defining a ridge  
30 outside the container;  
a gasket disposed in said vent recess; and  
a filter cover having a cover ridge sized to fit into said vent recess.
9. The vent filter seal of claim 8 further comprising:  
a sheet filter covering the vent and said vent recess disposed between

said vent recess and said filter cover;

means locking said filter cover onto the wall of the container and urging said cover ridge into said vent recess against said gasket with said sheet filter therebetween.

- 5 10. The vent filter seal of claim 9 wherein said filter cover and the vent are spaced apart when said filter cover is locked onto the container wall.
11. The vent filter seal of claim 10 wherein the vent is a pattern of holes through the container wall and the filter cover further comprises:
- 10 a pattern of holes through said cover within the area defined by said filter cover ridge.
12. The vent filter seal of claim 11 wherein the holes of the vent and said holes of said filter cover are offset relative to each other.